

CLAIMS

1-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) An optical system with reduced chromatic aberration, for use in microscopes for imaging the light source in the aperture diaphragm of a condenser, comprising:

a collector assembly; and

an apochromaticizing adapter assembly which is associated with the collector assembly;

wherein the adapter assembly has three lenses, wherein one lens having negative power is arranged between two lenses having positive power; and

~~The optical system according to claim 10, wherein the three lenses are separated from one another by air gaps, and the lens surfaces facing the air gaps have identical radii.~~

12. (previously presented) An optical system with reduced chromatic aberration, for use in microscopes for imaging the light source in the aperture diaphragm of a condenser, comprising:

a collector assembly; and

an apochromaticizing adapter assembly which is associated with the collector assembly;

wherein the adapter assembly has three lenses, wherein one lens having negative power is arranged between two lenses having positive power; and

~~The optical system according to claim 10, wherein the optical characteristics of the two lenses having positive power are identical.~~

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) An optical system with reduced chromatic aberration, for use in microscopes for imaging the light source in the aperture diaphragm of a condenser, comprising:

a collector assembly; and

an apochromaticizing adapter assembly which is associated with the collector assembly;

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~~The optical system according to claim 9,~~ wherein means are provided for detachably connecting the adapter assembly to interchangeable collector assemblies which have different optical characteristics.

15-16. (canceled)